

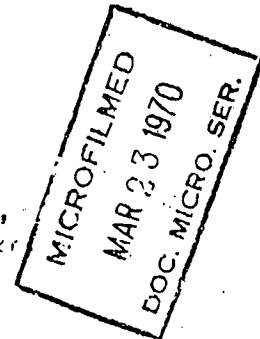
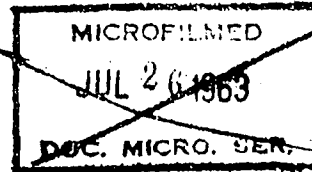
TRANSLATION

EGNA-8279

Federal Agency for the Protection
of the Constitution
III/C 4 73 420 70.353/56 geh.

Cologne, 2 Mar 1956

American Embassy, OGA
Attn. Mr. T.C. HUGHES
Room III - 406
Hamburg



Subject: ~~Walter BEHRENS~~, born on 18 Mar 1915 in Kiel,
Address: Hamburg-Altona, Kieler-Str. 30 W. Ger.
Ref. : Without

Hermann SCHNEIDER of Duesseldorf, In den Koeten 19, who was released
from Soviet Russian captivity in Oct 1955, reported the following
regarding the subject-person:

"From 1952 to 1954 I was together with Dr. BEHRENS in the penal
camp Begtjerka near Sverdlovsk.

Dr. BEHRENS furnished me with the following personal data:

Dr. phil. Walter BEHRENS, born in 1915, attended secondary
school in Kiel, final examination (Abitur) in Austria (at the
time his father was in Austria for professional reasons);
member of the regular SS. From 1936 to 1938 detailed to
England by the Reichsfuehrer SS for the purpose of studying
there. His last rank and position during the war was that
of SS-Sturmabfuhrer and commander of an armored battalion
of the SS-division Viking. He was taken prisoner by the
Soviets and pretended to be an Austrian. As such he was re-
patricated on 4 or 17 Jun 1955, presumably to Austria.
Dr. BEHRENS speaks Russian, English, French and Spanish
fluently.

Personal description of Dr. BEHRENS:

Approximately 5'11", blond, "widows peak", blue eyes, large
nose, clear-cut features, languid gait as a result of an injury,
very communicative, egocentric.

While in the Soviet Union, in my presence Dr. BEHRENS always
advocated Communist ideas.

In the Fall of 1952 or Spring of 1953 BEHRENS was taken to the
prison in Sverdlovsk where he appeared as a witness against
HERRMANN, in connection with the investigations against
Major HERRMANN, former Airforce General, who also was in Soviet
captivity, who returned in Oct 1955, and lives now in Kiel,
Hanssenstr. 80. According to what I learned from Gerhard RECK
(born in 1924 or 1925), who was released from the Soviet Union
to Wuppertal in the Fall of 1953, Dr. BEHRENS was not really

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detained in prison, but for three weeks he was the personal guest of TROPOV, an NKVD (Lt. Colonel). He visited theaters, museums, and restaurants and on this occasion allegedly was given assignments on behalf of the Russian intelligence service. Allegedly, BEHRENS agreed, after his release, to report to the chief of the US counterintelligence in Salzburg and to offer there fake material on military objects in the Soviet Union. BEHRENS should then try with a recommendation of the US counterintelligence office to travel to London in order there to set up a Soviet espionage center in conjunction with former acquaintances.

I have given a detailed account of the afore-mentioned facts at the Friedland camp to (Herr) THOBLEN of the local interrogation office.

I learned recently from ex-General v. FALKENSTEIN of Kiel, Esmarchstr. 20, who returned from the Soviet Union on 8 Oct 1955, that in the beginning of Nov 1955 he met Dr. BEHRENS in a street in Kiel; BEHRENS tried to conceal himself from v. FALKENSTEIN. While in Soviet captivity, Dr. BEHRENS himself allegedly told General v. FALKENSTEIN of his connections with the Soviet intelligence service.

Moreover, I know, that Dr. BEHRENS also talked about his espionage connections with the Soviets to a (Dr.) THALHAMMER who, in Jun 1955, was released from the Soviet Union to Vienna. On this occasion Dr. BEHRENS supposedly said, that he had established these connections solely in order to obtain a premature release."

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